

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Li et al.	)	Group Art Unit: Unknown
	)	
Serial No.: Unassigned	)	Examiner: Unknown
(Parent: 09/493,301)	)	
	)	
Filed: Herewith	)	
(Parent: January 28, 2000 )	)	

For: COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR *IN VIVO* AND *IN VITRO*  
ATTENUATION OF GENE EXPRESSION USING DOUBLE STRANDED  
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The present application is a continuation patent application of Serial No. 10/038,984, Confirmation No. 9705, filed on January 4, 2002, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/493,301, filed January 28, 2000, which claims benefit to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Nos. 60/117,635, filed January 28, 1999 and 60/175,440, filed January 11, 2000.

Prior to taking up the above-identified application for examination, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on the page entitled "Amendments to the Specification."

Remarks begin on the page entitled "Remarks."